

how to improve the program. Joan was an active member of the OuRx coalition, which links low income seniors with prescription drug discount plans. Furthermore, she never wavered in the fight to preserve the integrity of the Social Security program.

At the State Capitol, Joan became someone who was known in the corridors of power. She served on many policymaking groups, including the Olmstead Advisory Committee. The Committee was in charge of implementing the landmark 1999 U.S. Supreme Court "Olmstead Decision" which requires States to take steps to avoid the unnecessary institutionalization of seniors and people with disabilities. From advocating for an accessible and affordable health care system to ensuring Medicare is responsive to our Nation's seniors needs, Joan always stood up for what is right.

Madam Speaker, as Joan Lee's husband Arnie Godmintz, her children John, David and Cleo and her friends gather to honor her wonderful legacy and countless contributions, I am honored to pay tribute to her. I ask all my colleagues to pause and join me in paying respect to an extraordinary loving woman, Joan Lee.

IN HONOR OF THE DEPLOYMENT
OF THE WASHINGTON ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD 161ST INFANTRY
BATTALION, 81ST BRIGADE COM-
BAT TEAM

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with the citizens of the Fifth Congressional District, State of Washington in recognition of the 161st Infantry Battalion, 81st Brigade Combat Team, Washington Army National Guard as it prepares for its second one-year tour of duty in Iraq since its mobilization in 2003. Soldiers of the 81st Brigade Combat Team will be responsible for convoy security and force protection missions throughout Iraq, where they previously deployed in 2004 and 2005.

From its inception, the mission of the National Guard has been the defense of our Nation's borders. However, since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 the defense of our borders has become an "away game" as our military has taken the fight to the enemy. No less involved has been the Army National Guard.

The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Army Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum reported that at one point in the war on terror, National Guard members made up almost half of the ground forces in Iraq and since 9/11, more than 400,000 Guardsmen have been mobilized in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Every aspect of a military mission is critical to its success and each one of these Guardsmen has committed time for pre-deployment training, leaving family and business behind to prepare themselves for a mission of historic and global significance.

We are grateful to these citizen soldiers and we thank them for their selfless-service in peacetime and war, here in this Nation and throughout the world. Their simple love of

country and dedication to liberty compels them to serve this great nation and so today we recognize their commitment, sacrifice and courage in their willingness to protect and defend our Nation in the Global War on Terrorism.

We are also grateful for the sacrifice of family members who also pay a price for freedom. We may never be able to adequately thank our soldiers and their families but we must always support them. It is with a deep sense of pride, Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking the members of the 161st Infantry Battalion, 81st Brigade Combat Team for their service.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS INTRODUCE
ENERGY LEGISLATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last week House Republicans introduced the American Energy Act—an all-of-the-above approach to reduce energy prices for hard-working Americans and their families.

Our Nation is increasingly dependent on foreign oil. This endangers our economy and our national security. The billions we send overseas to buy foreign oil should be spent investing in American-made energy by exploring for our own resources in an environmentally sound way.

We also need to expand our research into alternative, renewable energy sources like biomass, hydrogen, wind, solar, and nuclear power while encouraging American consumers to conserve. Our bill does all of this.

I urge the House Democrat leadership to join with us before adjournment to promote an American energy program. The American people deserve this opportunity to have their voices heard.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

MR. ALVIN G. RANDOLPH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to honor the life of Mr. Alvin G. Randolph who passed away June 23, 2008. Mr. Randolph was a businessperson, a fine father, and served his community. He also played a role in desegregating the Lamar State College of Technology in 1956, giving a countless number of youth an equal opportunity for education no matter their race.

Alvin was born in Orange, Texas, as the third of eleven children. He graduated from high school in 1943 and enrolled in Prairie View College shortly afterwards, where he worked as a repair person for room and board. He put his education on hold to serve his country when he was drafted into World War II as an officer candidate. After his service to his country, he returned home and attended Jefferson Junior College where he earned his real estate broker's license.

At the same time, there was a tremendous social revolution happening in the United

States. In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court decided the landmark case Brown vs. Board of Education, naming separate educational facilities inherently unequal and setting the stage for integration and the Civil Rights Movement. This opened the doors to schools and universities across the nation but there was still a segment of the population that was set on keeping them closed.

As African-American students walked up to the doors of their new universities, they were often greeted with protests and picket lines and Lamar State College of Technology was no different. Nevertheless, Alvin and 25 other black students enrolled and were accepted to Lamar's campus of 5,455 students. They battled the almost riotous conditions and paved the way to an equal education for a student of any race.

Randolph earned his business degree in 1958 and went on to study property law at Texas Southern University. He worked as a real estate broker, homebuilder, and life insurance underwriter. With his wife Jerodine, they had five children. He was active in both the Northside and Eleventh Street Churches of Christ and served on the Board of Directors at the L.L. Melton YMCA. He passed away at the age of 80.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I honor Mr. Alvin Randolph for his courage in the face of tremendous adversity. He helped make our world a better place to live, and I applaud his unwavering service and dedication to the community. Alvin Randolph is a true American hero.

HONORING MIKE RAMBO

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Dean Rambo of Colleyville, Texas. Michael was an outstanding husband, father, and Scout Master for Troop 28. He educated and guided the youth of his community for a number of years. Michael was always looking for the opportunity to give back to the community in which he lived. He loved his family and friends and they loved him.

Michael was a remarkable friend, neighbor, and public servant with infinite talents and gifts which he shared with all who had the honor to know him. He was an expert in ornithology, astronomy, computer architecture, math, and photography.

Michael always had a childlike wonder and awe of the world around him, an insatiable thirst for knowledge, and a relentless desire for understanding. He was constantly observing everything that the world had to offer. His example and enthusiasm made those around him want to learn more, to do more, and be more.

Michael was always up for a challenge and was always willing to lend a hand. He volunteered on the Longhorn Council for over fifteen years. He was the Cubmaster for Pack 254 before taking the lead roll for Troop 28. Michael was the guiding light for Troop 28 for twelve years, and under Rambo's leadership, Troop 28 earned Colleyville's first Service Award. Michael once said, "When I took over